

The importance of being Exact: integrability, gauge, black holes physics and their correspondence

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Davide Fioravanti (I.N.F.N. and Univ., Bologna)

Papers (and works in progress) with **M.Rossi**, D.Gregori, R.Mahanta, H. Shu
2412.21148; 2508.19960

Elementary, not many citations (too many): apology!

Synopsis and Motivation

Quantum Integrability

from **Integral** and **Functional** equations to classical
ODEs (Lax **integrability**) in **gauge theories** (and **BH**)



in the papers

Scattering theory in 1+1d:

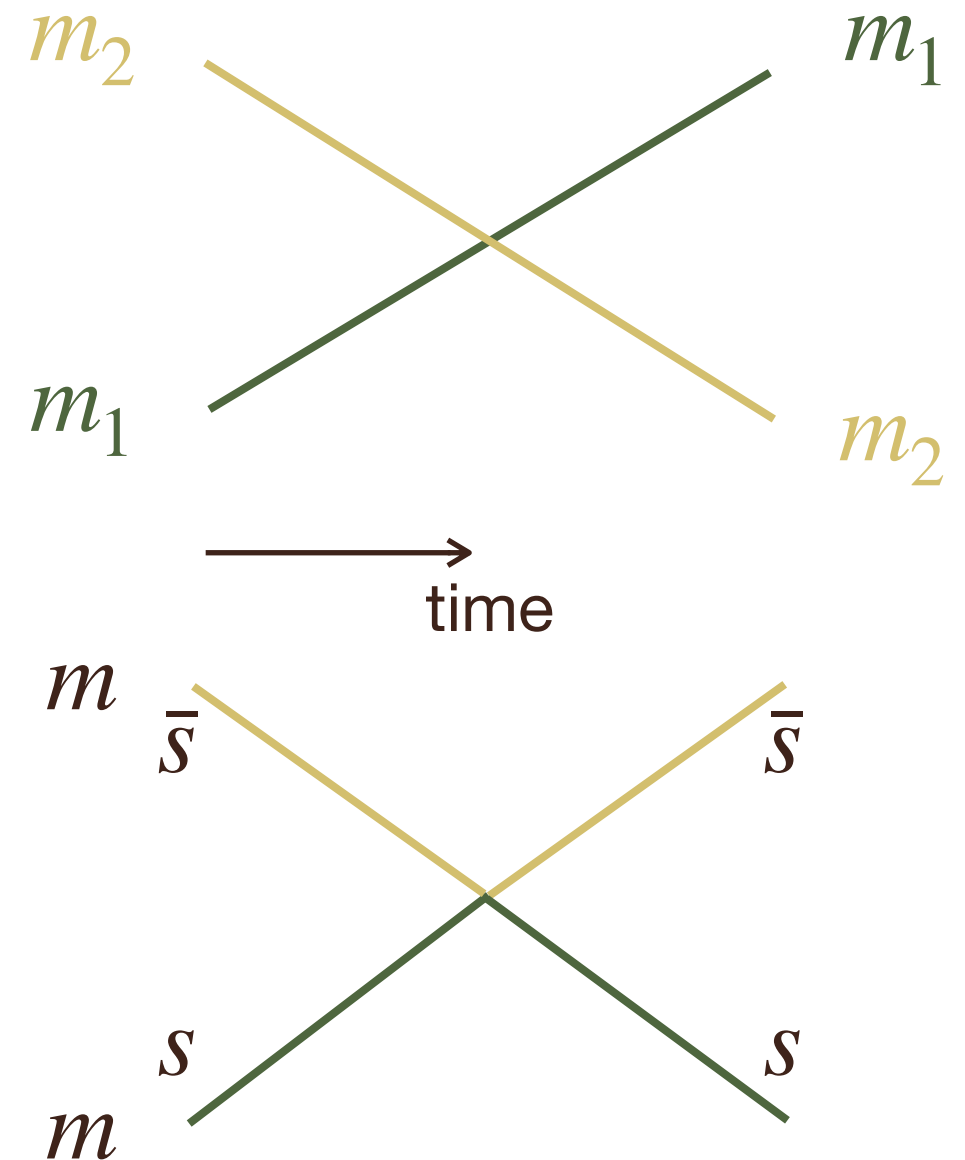
Two body scattering

- Infinite charges implies particles maintain their rapidity θ_i :

$$p_i = m_i \sinh \theta_i \quad E_i = m_i \cosh \theta_i$$

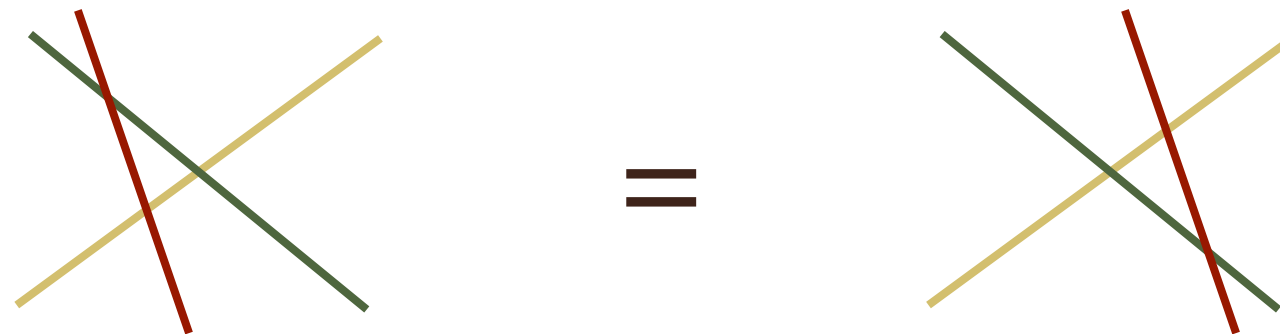
if $m_1 \neq m_2$: $S = e^{i\delta}$ phase shift.

- If equal masses, possible exchange of internal degrees of freedom: $s + \bar{s} \rightarrow s + \bar{s}$ or $s + \bar{s} \rightarrow \bar{s} + s$ in the quantum Sine-Gordon, i.e. non-diagonal scattering.



Three body scattering

- ♦ Infinite charges implies the scattering is independent of the order or associative:
Yang-Baxter relation



- ♦ The general n-body scattering matrix factorises into two-body processes.

$$A_{Sh-G} = \int d^2x [(\partial_a \phi)^2 + \mu \cosh(b\phi)]$$

Sinh-Gordon S-matrix

- ♦ Two-body S-matrix

$$S(\theta) = \frac{\sinh \theta - i \sin \pi p}{\sinh \theta + i \sin \pi p}$$

with notation for the coupling constant:

$$p = b/(b + 1/b).$$

- ♦ This is an on-shell information or infinite size.
- ♦ How to compute finite size energy (off-shell)?

Thermodynamic Bethe Ansatz

Mirror theory (space $\leftrightarrow$ time):

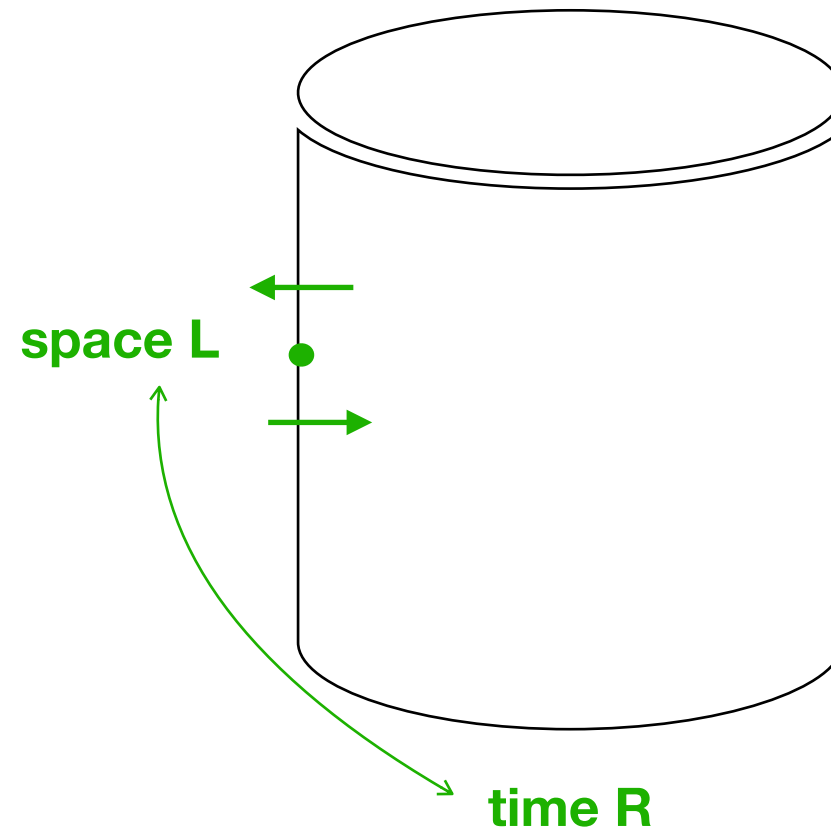
Bethe eqs. (derived via analytic continuation) in space $L \rightarrow \infty$ become exact!

Finite R no longer a problem:

Thermodynamics/statistical mechanics at temperature $T=1/R$ (Yang-Yang) gives the minimal **free energy**

energy $f_{\min}(L)$ so that

$$Z = \exp[-LRf_{\min}(R)] + \dots = \exp[-LE_0] + \dots$$



Thermodynamic Bethe Ansatz

- ♦ Upon equating the two exponents of Z

$$E_0(R) = Rf_{min}(R)$$

- ♦ Ground state energy (Sinh-Gordon in the present case) given by thermodynamic free energy.
- ♦ Relativistic models: $S_{mirror} = S$ of original theory, because of difference of rapidities.
- ♦ Minimising a thermodynamic functional $\Rightarrow$ Non-Linear TBA equations, whose SOLUTION gives the ENERGY

Sinh-Gordon: TBA

- ◆ Ground state energy $E_0(R) = -\frac{m}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\theta \cosh \theta \ln[1 + e^{-\epsilon(\theta)}]$

- ◆ TBA EQUATION for the pseudoenergy (ratio of particle densities)

$$\epsilon(\theta) = mR \cosh \theta - \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\theta' \varphi(\theta - \theta') \ln[1 + e^{-\epsilon(\theta')}]$$

describe the scattering $\varphi = \delta' = -i \frac{d}{d\theta} \ln S$.

- ◆ It has only ONE solution, easy to find numerically (by recursion)
 $\epsilon(\theta) = R(m \cosh \theta) + \dots \rightarrow$ relativistic particle, and analytically in some regimes.

Sinh-Gordon: Y-system

- ♦ TBA equation $a = 1 - 2p$ (coupling)

$$\varepsilon(\theta) = mR \cosh \theta - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{\cosh(\theta - \theta' + ia\pi/2)} + \frac{1}{\cosh(\theta - \theta' - ia\pi/2)} \right] \ln [1 + e^{-\varepsilon(\theta')}] \frac{d\theta'}{2\pi}$$

$\Rightarrow$ (not the reverse: driving term disappears) $\varepsilon(\theta) = -\ln Y(\theta)$

- ♦ FUNCTIONAL EQUATION: Y-system

$$Y(\theta + i\pi/2)Y(\theta - i\pi/2) = \left(1 + Y(\theta + ia\pi/2)\right)\left(1 + Y(\theta - ia\pi/2)\right)$$

- ♦ Both functional and integral equations constraint form and expansions (in conserved charges) of solutions: **strength and power of quantum integrability**

Introducing Ordinary Differential equations (ODE)

- ♦ Foreword: important observation of derivation of functional equations from **polynomial potentials** in Schrödinger eq. for minimal CFTs: ODE→IM correspondence. Dorey, Tateo; BLZ; Dunning; Suzuki; DF, Masoero; ..., Ito, Marino, Shu; ...
- ♦ But need **two irregular singularities**, like in SW differential and HEUN EQ
- ♦ **Can we construct a GENERAL INVERSION THEORY? YES**, but requires time and arrives at TWO Lax Operators: MASSIVE TH. DF, M Rossi; Gaiotto, Moore, Neitzke; Lukyanov, Zam
- ♦ Y beautiful, but **not elementary** (QQ-system, definition of integrability)
- ♦ Our rough and heuristic idea: QQ-system is **unitarity in QM**

$$r(\theta)r(\theta + i\pi) + t(\theta)t(\theta + i\pi) = 1, \quad k = ie^\theta$$

Help from
Seiberg-Witten theory,
i.e. $N=2$ susy (effective) gauge
theory

$N=2$ gauge periods and ODEs

- Original Seiberg-Witten idea: the prepotential is give by two periods of a differential. Nekrasov-Shatashvili $\hbar$ instanton regularisation/deformation: an ODE quantises the differential. Moreover: **AGT correspondence**: level two null vector ODE. Pure SU(2): Mathieu eq. (periodic potential: quasi-periodic (Floquet) sols.)

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{d^2}{dz^2} \psi(z) + [\Lambda^2 \cos z - u] \psi(z) = 0 \quad \text{Floquet exponent: } \psi_{\pm}(z + 2\pi; a) = e^{\pm 2\pi i a} \psi_{\pm}(z; a)$$

- Quantum SW differential $\mathcal{P}(z) = -i \frac{d}{dx} \ln \psi(z) \rightarrow$ Quantum periods

$$a(\hbar, u, \Lambda) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \mathcal{P}(z; \hbar, u, \Lambda) dz \implies u = u(a), \quad a_D(\hbar, u, \Lambda) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\arccos(u/\Lambda^2) - i0}^{\arccos(u/\Lambda^2) - i0} \mathcal{P}(z; \hbar, u, \Lambda) dz = \partial \mathcal{F} / \partial a \implies \mathcal{F}(\hbar, a, \Lambda)$$

Prepotential

- Focus on how to extract FUNCTIONAL EQUATIONS

$N=2$ gauge periods and ODE

- Thinking of ODE/IM correspondence, we go to confining potential: complex $z = -iy - \pi$

$$\left\{ -\frac{d^2}{dy^2} + 2e^{2\theta} \cosh y + P^2 \right\} \psi(y) = 0 \quad \text{Heun DB-confluent eq.}$$

- with **gauge/integrability** change of variable

$$\frac{\hbar}{\Lambda} = e^{-\theta}, \quad \frac{u}{\Lambda^2} = \frac{P^2}{2e^{2\theta}}$$

- Can we use this ODE for quantum sinh-Gordon?

ODE/IM correspondence:

- Introducing b : Generalised Mathieu Equation (GME) $y \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\left\{ -\frac{d^2}{dy^2} + e^{2\theta}(e^{y/b} + e^{-yb}) + P^2 \right\} \psi(y) = 0$$

Zamolodchikov; DF, Gregori

- 2 irr. sings., guessed by some discrete symmetries

$$\Lambda_b : \theta \rightarrow \theta + i\pi \frac{b}{q} \quad y \rightarrow y + \frac{2\pi i}{q} \quad ; \quad \Omega_b : \theta \rightarrow \theta + i\pi \frac{1}{bq} \quad y \rightarrow y - \frac{2\pi i}{q}$$

Fundamental Ingredients

- **Discrete Symmetries BROKEN**: acting on a solution they generate a new one
- **Fundamental ODE/IM basis**: decaying solutions

$$V_0(y) \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \exp\left\{-\theta/2 + yb/4\right\} \exp\left\{-\frac{2}{b}e^{\theta-yb/2}\right\} \quad y \rightarrow -\infty ;$$

$$U_0(y) \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \exp\left\{-\theta/2 - y/4b\right\} \exp\left\{-2be^{\theta+y/2b}\right\} \quad y \rightarrow +\infty$$

- From asymptotic, new solutions by ‘rotations’ $U_k = \Lambda_b^k U_0$, $V_k = \Omega_b^k V_0$, while invariant $U_0 = \Omega_b^k U_0$, $V_0 = \Lambda_b^k V_0$

- Fundamental object Q-function=**Wronskian** of decaying solutions

$$Q(\theta, P^2) = W[U_0, V_0]$$

- Thanks to the Λ_b and then Ω_b symmetries

$$iV_0(y) = Q(\theta + i\pi p)U_0(y) - Q(\theta)U_1(y)$$

$$iV_1(y) = Q(\theta + i\pi)U_0(y) - Q(\theta + i\pi(1 - p))U_1(y)$$

- That is **CONNEXION COEFFICIENT** $Q(\theta) \rightarrow$ **Stokes MONODROMY**: $T(\theta)$ or $Y(\theta)$

$$T(\theta, P^2) = -iW[U_1, U_{-1}] = Q(\theta - i\pi p)Q(\theta + i\pi) - Q(\theta + i\pi(1 - 2p))Q(\theta + i\pi p), \quad \tilde{T}(\theta, P^2) = iW[V_1, V_{-1}] = T(b \rightarrow 1/b)$$

- Wronskian of both sides: **QQ-system**

$$1 = Q(\theta + i\pi)Q(\theta) - Q(\theta + i\pi(1 - p))Q(\theta + i\pi p)$$

for AdS/CFT: Quantum Spectral Curve

The return of the Y-system

- ♦ Q is the most basic object which generates all the integrability structures from the QQ-system: e.g. the Y-system upon

composition $Y(\theta) = Q(\theta + i\pi a/2)Q(\theta - i\pi a/2)$

$$Y(\theta + i\pi/2)Y(\theta - i\pi/2) = \left(1 + Y(\theta + ia\pi/2)\right)\left(1 + Y(\theta - ia\pi/2)\right)$$

- ♦ The same as Sinh-Gordon! Same solution Y?
- ♦ The Y-system inversion is **not unique**: take the log and invert the shift operator, but **ZERO MODES**

$$s * l = l(\theta + i\pi/2) + l(\theta - i\pi/2) \Rightarrow s^{-1} \sim \frac{1}{\cosh}$$

NO: massless limit $m \sim 0, \theta \sim +\infty \Rightarrow m \cosh \theta \sim e^\theta$

Liouville Field theory

- ♦ TBA equation has **only one exponent**:

$$\varepsilon(\theta) = \frac{8\sqrt{\pi^3} q}{\Gamma(\frac{b}{2q})\Gamma(\frac{1}{2bq})} e^\theta - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{1}{\cosh(\theta - \theta' + ia\pi/2)} + \frac{1}{\cosh(\theta - \theta' - ia\pi/2)} \right] \ln [1 + e^{-\varepsilon(\theta')}] \frac{d\theta'}{2\pi}$$

- ♦ Thanks to this (kink form), finite size scaling can be computed exactly and gives

$$c = 1 + 6(b + b^{-1})^2 \quad \Delta = (c - 1)/24 - P^2$$

T, Q and $N=2$ gauge periods

- ◆ The same equation of Liouville at the self-dual point $b = 1$

$$\left\{ -\frac{d^2}{dy^2} + 2e^{2\theta} \cosh y + P^2 \right\} \psi(y) = 0 \quad z = -iy - \pi$$

- ◆ upon **gauge/integrability** change of variable

$$\frac{\hbar}{\Lambda} = e^{-\theta}, \quad \frac{u}{\Lambda^2} = \frac{P^2}{2e^{2\theta}}$$

◆ New integrability/gauge Correspondence: identification

$$\overset{\text{integrability transfer matrix}}{T(\hbar, u, \Lambda)} \equiv T(\theta, P^2) = iW[V_1, V_{-1}] \overset{\text{gauge period, Floquet exponent}}{=} 2 \cos \{2\pi a(\hbar, u, \Lambda)\}$$

$$\overset{\text{integrability Q-function}}{Q(\hbar, u, \Lambda)} \equiv Q(\theta, P^2) \overset{\text{dual gauge period}}{=} \exp\{2\pi i a_D(\hbar, u, \Lambda)\}$$

◆ The fundamental relation of the theory: **QQ-SYSTEM**

$$\overset{\text{integrability}}{1 + Q^2(\theta, P^2)} = Q(\theta - i\pi/2, P^2)Q(\theta + i\pi/2, P^2) \iff \overset{\text{gauge}}{1 + Q^2(\theta, u)} = Q(\theta - i\pi/2, -u)Q(\theta + i\pi/2, -u)$$

◆ From the gauge **Y-system** the gauge TBA eqs.

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon(\theta, u, \Lambda) &= \overset{\text{monopole}}{-4\pi i a_D^{(0)}(u, \Lambda)} \frac{e^\theta}{\Lambda} - 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\ln[1 + \exp\{-\varepsilon(\theta', -u, \Lambda)\}]}{\cosh(\theta - \theta')} \frac{d\theta'}{2\pi} \\ \varepsilon(\theta, -u, \Lambda) &= -4\pi i a_D^{(0)}(-u, \Lambda) \frac{e^\theta}{\Lambda} - 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\ln[1 + \exp\{-\varepsilon(\theta', u, \Lambda)\}]}{\cosh(\theta - \theta')} \frac{d\theta'}{2\pi} \end{aligned} \iff \begin{array}{l} \text{Unique} \\ \text{integrability TBA} \\ \text{eq. above} \end{array}$$

dyon, i.e. **strong coupling spectrum**

- Quantum integrability tells more: e.g. $T \rightarrow$ weak coupling spectrum (a electric period), inside **TQ-system** ($a/\hbar \rightarrow a$, $a_D/\hbar \rightarrow a_D$)

$$2 \cos \{2\pi a\} \exp\{2\pi i a_D\} T(\theta) Q(\theta) = Q(\theta - i\pi/2) + Q(\theta + i\pi/2)$$

- +periodicity, gauge interpretation: **quantum Bilal-Ferrari relations**. In fact T and Q are generating functions $\hbar/\Lambda = e^{-\theta} \rightarrow 0$ (asymptotic expansion) of for Conserved Charges and Quantum Periods (zero order=Seiberg-Witten). Opposite to instanton expansion $\Lambda/\hbar = e^{\theta} \rightarrow 0$ (other charges).

ODE/**IN** Correspondence

- ◆ **Prepotential** $\mathcal{F} = \text{pert.} (1 - \text{loop}) + (\text{INstantons})$ from **Nekrasov Partition** via **Young diagrams** in instanton series (AGT correspondence)

- ◆ **IN**stanton coupling constant $\Lambda/\hbar = e^\theta$ expansion

- ◆ Dual instanton period/prepotential $A_D \stackrel{\text{SW geometry}}{=} \partial \mathcal{F} / \partial a$ appears in the **Q-function**

ODE/INstanton correspondence: $Q(a, \Lambda/\hbar) = i \frac{\sinh A_D}{\sinh 2\pi i a}$ simplest formula of this kind
∀Heun eq.

- ◆ A way to see this: solution of the QQ-system equivalent to $A_D(\theta + i\pi/2) = A_D(\theta) + 2\pi i a$ (check the asymptotic $\theta \rightarrow \pm \infty$),
functional equation solved by prepotential!

Unveiling Prepotential in ODE/IN

DF, Rossi

- Deeper understanding: **prepotential** i.e. **SW geometry** inside **Floquet basis**, +:

$$\psi_+(y + 2\pi i; a) = e^{+2\pi i a} \psi_+(y; a)$$

- behaves at $y \rightarrow -\infty$ as

$$\psi_+(y; a) \simeq (const.) (e^{\frac{y}{4}} e^{2e^\theta} e^{-\frac{y}{2}})$$

- and **acquires a scattering phase** at $y \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\psi_+(y; a) \simeq (const.) e^\varphi e^{-\frac{y}{4}} e^{2e^\theta} e^{\frac{y}{2}}$$

- It can be proven via $\varphi \left(\theta + \frac{i\pi}{2}, P \right) = \varphi(\theta, P) - 2\pi i a$

$$A_D = \varphi \Rightarrow \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}(\Lambda/\hbar, a/\hbar)$$

- Explicit **exact expression for φ** : an alternative computation to and of **instantons**, at all orders small $\frac{\Lambda}{\hbar} = e^\theta$, $\theta \rightarrow -\infty$ (and **beyond**, e.g. large instanton coupling $\theta \rightarrow +\infty$)
 - Since $\varphi(\theta, P) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy' (\Pi_+(y') - \text{reg.})$, not so easy as $2\pi i a = \int_0^{2i\pi} dy' \Pi_+(y')$
 $\searrow$ **non-compact: kink method**: $y \rightarrow y \pm 2\theta$
 $\searrow$ $\varphi = -4a\theta + \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} c_n e^{4n\theta}$: better expand
 - LESSON** from gauge dual period $\varphi = -4a\theta + \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} c_n e^{4n\theta}$: better expand
- $$\Pi_+(y \mp 2\theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} \Pi_{\gtrless}^{(n)}(y; P) e^{4n\theta}, \quad y \gtrless \pm 2\theta \text{ two different intervals of validity!}$$
- Check:** $\psi_+ = Z_{\text{quiver}}$, but ours partially re-summed (product of instanton couplings only)
 ...Bianchi, Fucito, Morales;
 Bonelli, Iossa, Tanzini,

Decaying vs. Floquet sols.

- ★ The quasi periodic Floquet solutions are the novelty in ODE/IN correspondence w.r.t. decaying ones of ODE/IM.

- ★ Change of basis (simple idea: cancel the dominant divergence):

$$V_0(y) = \frac{\sqrt{2}e^{\frac{\theta}{2}}}{W[\psi_+, \psi_-]} \left[e^{-\frac{\varphi}{2}}\psi_-(y) - e^{\frac{\varphi}{2}}\psi_+(y) \right],$$

$$U_0(y) = \frac{\sqrt{2}e^{\frac{\theta}{2}}}{W[\psi_+, \psi_-]} \left[e^{-\frac{\varphi}{2}}\psi_+(y) - e^{\frac{\varphi}{2}}\psi_-(y) \right] \implies Q(a, \theta) = -4e^{\theta} \frac{\sinh \varphi(a, \theta)}{W[\psi_+, \psi_-]}$$

General formulae: same form $\forall$ Heun-like (H and confluences) eqs.

- ★ All V_0, U_0 INGREDIENTS: $W[\psi_+, \psi_-]$, φ , $\Pi_{\pm} = d/dy[\ln \psi_{\pm}(y)]$ computed
- ★ Why and where Floquet approximation $U_0(y) \simeq C\psi_-(y), +e^{-\varphi} \sim e^{a\theta}$ non-perturbative
- ★ Here $W[\psi_+, \psi_-] = -4e^{\theta} \sin 2\pi a \implies Q(a, \Lambda/\hbar) = \frac{\sinh \varphi}{\sinh 2\pi i a}$, $\Lambda/\hbar = e^{\theta}$

Perturbation of BH (simplified): scalar perturbation D3 stack brane

- ◆ Upon radial-angular separation of **Black Hole** wave-form

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + \left[\omega^2 \left(1 + \frac{M^4}{r^4} \right) - \frac{(l+2)^2 - \frac{1}{4}}{r^2} \right] \phi = 0 \quad \text{radial Regge-Wheeler eq.}$$

- ◆ Change of variables $r = Me^{-\frac{y}{2}}$ $\omega M = 2ie^\theta$ $P = \frac{1}{2}(l+2)$
to bring it into the integrability form $\phi = e^{\frac{y}{4}}\psi$ **BH frequency**

$$-\frac{d^2}{dy^2}\psi + [e^{2\theta}(e^y + e^{-y}) + P^2] \psi = 0$$

- ◆ ODE/IM basis reproduce gravitational **BH boundary conditions.**

$$U_0(r) \sim e^{i\omega L^2/r}, r \rightarrow 0 \ (y \rightarrow +\infty); \quad V_0(y) \sim e^{i\omega r}, r \rightarrow +\infty \ (y \rightarrow -\infty)$$

in: ingoing at horizon $r = 0$

up: outgoing at $r = \infty$

Extensions to realistic cases

- ♦ $N_f = 2 \rightarrow$ Intersection of four stacks of D3 branes (extremal **Kerr BH**; equal charges: extremal **Reissner-Nöstrom BH**)

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + \left[-\frac{(l + \frac{1}{2})^2 - \frac{1}{4}}{r^2} + \omega^2 \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{\Sigma_k}{r^k} \right] \phi = 0$$

- ♦ which becomes in integrability form confluent Heun eq

$$-\frac{d^2}{dy^2}\psi + \left[e^{2\theta}(e^{2y} + e^{-2y}) + 2e^\theta(M_1e^y + M_2e^{-y}) + P^2 \right] \psi = 0$$

- ♦ fully new forms of Y-systems and TBA equations

- ♦ $N_f = 3 \rightarrow$ confluent Heun **Schwarzschild**, ^{Regge-Wheeler, Teukolsky} Kerr both radial and angular

- ♦ $N_f = 4 \rightarrow$ Heun eq. AdS BH ($N_f = 4$): **Heun and all confluences**.

Quiver gauge theories.....

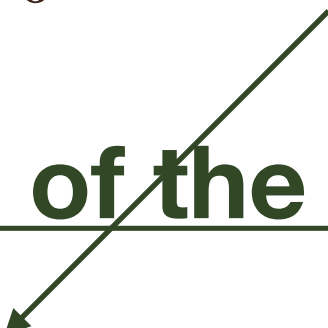
Approach by gauge instantons: Atsuda, Grassi, Hatsuda; Bianchi, Di Russo, Fucito, Morales, Russo, Poghossian; Arnaudo, Bonelli, Iossa, Tanzini,.....

Quasinormal modes=Bethe roots

- ◆ Imposing the BH boundary conditions on

$$iV_0(y) = Q(\theta + i\pi/2)U_0(y) - Q(\theta)U_1(y)$$

- ◆ Proper eigen-frequencies of the black hole

$$Q(\theta_n) = 0$$


- Integrability Thermodynamic Bethe Ansatz equation

$$\ln Q(\theta) = -\frac{8\sqrt{\pi^3}}{\Gamma^2(\frac{1}{4})}e^\theta + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\ln [1 + Q^2(\theta')]}{\cosh(\theta - \theta')} \frac{d\theta'}{2\pi}$$

- Sort of solution up to quadratures. Important: **Q** is the full spectral determinant (**Bethe roots=QNMs are only the zeroes**).
- ♦ ODE/IM fundamental Wronskian $Q(\theta, P^2) = W[U_0, V_0]$ is the same as the **gravitational** PDE solution $\Rightarrow$ more info (wave-function, space-time solution, etc.): applications to

BH and Gravitational waves?

Conclusions and some perspectives

- ♦ Painlevé/gauge (NS) theory correspondence → Floquet.
- ♦ Many exact results for gauge **SU(2)** theories with matter.
- ♦ Thorough application to BH physics and Cosmology ?
- ♦ Gauge prepotential 'solves' particular **ODE/IM**: what about general ODE/IM? Integrability community is unsatisfied.....
- ♦ Extension to more complicated higher rank gauge theories (by now only pure SU(3)).
- ♦ NS limit $\epsilon_1 = \hbar$, $\epsilon_2 = 0 \rightarrow$ ODE/IM description: $\epsilon_2 \neq 0$ quantum ODE/IM? q-TBA? Similarly about classical string in $N=4$ SYM for null-polygonal Wls.
- ♦ Mathieu ODE is level 2 null vector equation, but our Liouville field theory is not AGT: meaning of $b \neq 1$?

Thank you!